

## ABSTRACT

Apparatus, and an associated method, for facilitating communications in a radio communication system that utilizes shared, packet channels. One or more common control channels are defined upon a forward link extending between a network part of the radio communication system and the mobile stations thereof. Assignment  
5 information sets so generated by an assignment information generator and formatted into data frames for communication to the mobile stations. The mobile stations monitor a single shared packet control channel to receive the assignment information sent thereto upon the common shared channel.